

SECRET
Security Information

EGQA 30276

Date: 26 NOV. 1950

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TO : Chief, EE
FROM : Chief of Mission, Frankfurt
SUBJECT: General - Operational/REDSOX/AECOB
Specific - Viktors PORMANS
REF : EGQW 10376, 16 Sept 1953

The CIC Central Registry files contain ~~XXX~~ (following - see attachments) information on subject cited.
This office has been informed that the report of 24 February 1947, mentioned
in 27 July 1950 interrogation report, is not available at CIC Headquarters.

Approved:

J
Distribution:
3-EE w/atts

Enclosures:

CIC report D-304038
" " 27 July 1950
" " 7 July 1947
" " 4 Dec 1947
" " 17 July 1950

SECRET
Security Information

RI COPY

5-53-9M-33533

FOR COORDINATION WITH US Army

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 382B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

D-304038

SUBJECT: FORMANS, Viktors

TO: Commanding Officer
7997th Composite Group
APO 757, US Army
ATTENTION: Penny B. LITTLE

1. Returned herewith is your IRS No. 3275, subject as above, dated 23 September 1953, requesting Central Registry check.

2. In compliance with your request, the name contained therein was checked against the files of Central Registry, 66th CIC Group; the following information was disclosed:

Viktors FORMANS, your trace. A trace is held on one Vitolds FORMANIS, date of birth unknown, born in Latvia. Inclosed herewith, for your information, are photostats (quadruplicate) of Agent Report, 66th CIC Detachment, Region I, dated 27 July 1950; Subject: FORMANIS, Vitolds.
(CONFIDENTIAL)

2 Incl:
a/s

WARREN S. LEROY
Colonel, CMLC
Commanding

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

27 July 1950

POKHANSIS, Vitoldis

I-71b

1. REASON FOR INVESTIGATION:

- a. Reference is made to Agent Reports, Headquarters 66th CIC Detachment, Region I, dated 24 February 1947, 7 July 1947, 4 December 1947 and 17 July 1950, Subject and file as above.
- b. Reference is made to Agent Report, Headquarters 66th CIC Detachment, Region I, Subject: POKHANSIS, Melita, dated 17 August 1949, file I-3314.
- c. Subject is suspected of being a member of the Communist Party, and as such, has falsified his emigration papers by withholding information that he was a member of the Communist Party in Latvia.

2. SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION:

Subject, a Latvian, was alleged to be a member of the Communist Party in Latvia and to have written editorials and columns for the Latvian communist newspaper "CIMA". Subject was expelled from the Latvian student fraternity "Lettos" for having written articles glorifying the communist government and at the same time slandering the former free Latvian government and its supporters. Subject, during 1940 and 1941, the time of the Russian occupation of Latvia, was a member of the Editorial Board of the communist newspaper "CIMA". Subject is alleged to have displayed his Communist Party membership card during a visit to a cafe in Riga, Latvia, in February 1941, and also again in the presence of other people during a wedding party. Subject's father, Martijs POKHANSIS, sent both his children, Melita and Vitoldis, to left-wing Socialist schools in Latvia. Martijs POKHANSIS was a member of the Communist Party in Latvia prior to 1939 and is presently a Communist Party member in Riga, Latvia. Martijs POKHANSIS is also a member of the Communist Party Executive Committee in Riga, a position which Subject also attained. Subject is alleged to have frequently visited the Russian Repatriation Officer in STUTTLART (L49/SOP) and is believed to have been an informant for him. After the entrance of the Germans into Latvia, Subject was seen wearing a swastika armband and patrolling in front of the former Chancery Building in Riga, Latvia. Subject's reputation for being continually involved in improper actions was notorious in the city of Riga, Latvia.

3. PRESENT INVESTIGATION:

Background data: Information has been forwarded in previous reports.

4. On 25 July 1950 Andris BERNIIS, Corp Administrator, Latvian DP Camp, RIGA 11 (L49/S12), was interviewed relative to his knowledge of Subject. BERNIIS stated that Subject joined the Latvian student fraternity "Lettos" in January 1935. At that time Subject was a sports writer and sports enthusiast. Martijs POKHANSIS,

WALTER H. KAGELIS, Special Agent, CIC
66th CIC Det., Region I

Walter H. Kagelis

Inc 13

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AR, I-214, Pg 1, 66th CIC Det, 27 July 50, sub: FORMANIS, Vitalds

Subject's father, was a member of the Latvian Social Democratic Party, but belonged to the group within this party that leaned to the extreme left. In approximately February 1940, HERZINS saw an article in a Latvian newspaper written by Subject which seemed to condemn the Latvians for their way of life. Subject was questioned by the fraternity "Lettonia" concerning this article and, when it became apparent that he was lying, he was expelled for six (6) months. In June 1940, after the occupation of Latvia by the Russians, a sport newspaper carried an article by Subject which praised the present type of sports initiated by the Russians as more healthful and graceful than the former degrading methods of sport undertakings under the free Latvian Government. Subject continued to praise the actions of the Russian occupation and abuse the supporters of the free Latvian Government. Subject also was an editor for the Latvian communist newspaper "CIMA", during the Russian occupation. In July 1940 Subject was permanently expelled from the fraternity. HERZINS also heard rumors in Latvia that Subject had displayed a Communist Party membership card on several occasions in Latvia and had bragged about his membership and the special privileges that it allowed him. HERZINS does not know who witnessed these actions, but believes that Koralis HERZINS, Labor Service Company, FRANKFURT/4 (161/467), was a witness on one of these occasions. HERZINS probably knows as much about Subject as anyone presently residing in Germany. HERZINS was only with Subject several months in ENGLAND before Subject emigrated to America. Subject was not living in the DP camp, but lived on the German economy. HERZINS has heard reports, however, that Subject displayed a communistic attitude while he was residing in ENGLAND. (P-2) (A copy of the order expelling Subject from the fraternity is attached as Exhibit "A".)

5. UNDEVELOPED LEADS AND FUTURE ACTION:

Interview with Koralis HERZINS in FRANKFURT (Region III) to determine the extent of his knowledge concerning Subject.

6. AGENT'S NOTE:

a. Background Information: The attached Exhibit "A" was previously submitted as Exhibits "BX" and "CX" to the Region I report, Subject: FORMANIS, Helita, dated 17 August 1949. The copy was typed and signed on 25 July 1949 concerning the section "Lettonia" had taken in July 1940. Most of the signers of this paper have emigrated to other countries.

b. Comments and Opinions: None

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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AB, 1-91b, Ref 1, 66th CIC Det, 27 July 50, sub: POGANIS, Vitolda

c. Recommendations: None

APPROVED:

LEONARD H. MEYER
Special Agent, CID
Chair, CG Team

REMARKS - "A" - Copy of the order expelling Subject from the fraternity "Lottomia".

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HEADQUARTERS
SUB-REGION STUTTGART
COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS, REGION I

WAD/KDE

File No. I-S-3 292

APR 154
7 July 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

SUBJECT: FORMANIS, Vitolds

RE: Collection of Personal Data

1. Reason for Investigation:

Reference is made to SOI, CIC Region IV, Sub-region KAUFBEUREN, subject as above, dated 9 June 1947. Subject, who emigrated to the States in December 1946, allegedly was an informant of the NKVD in Latvia during the Soviet occupation and was arrested twice by German SD in RIGA because of communist affiliations.

2. Results of Investigation:

a. This office investigated an intercepted letter from John KULIS, ESSLINGEN/Neckar, Marktplatz 25 I to Miss Auoma LIGTS, c/o Mrs. T. ORANTS, 59 Bay Ridge Way, Brooklyn 9, N.Y., dated 23 Jan 1947 (CCD intercept E/47/2528) on 24 Feb 47. The results of this investigation, which follow below, had been reported to the American Consulate, STUTTGART, on 27 Feb 1947. A copy of this report was sent by the American Consulate to the State Department, Emigration Service, Washington, D.C.

b. Interrogation of KULIS revealed that he is a Latvian Displaced Person, being born in SIGULDA, Kreis Riga, Latvia on 20 September 1881. KULIS stated that he left Latvia on orders of the German Army on 5 October 1944 to BUNGBRANITZ, Kreis Loeb-schuetz in Upper Silesia. He further stated, his only son has not been heard of since his arrest on 20 April 1941 by the Russians on the charge of treason. KULIS related the following story of his acquaintance with subject:

(1) " I first met FORMANIS, Vitolds when he attended the wedding feast of my son, KULLI, Martin, accompanied by several young Latvian officers in February 1941. At this time, Latvia was occupied by the Russians. Subject was a student of the Latvian university at RIGA and associated with a group of young Latvian officers, of which my son was a member. Subject's father, at this time, was a member of the Communist Executive Committee of Riga while subject was on the editorial staff of the communist newspaper "Cinja", but also became a member of the executive later.

(VOIO, PORMANIS, Vitolds, cont'd)

7 June 1947

JULY 1947

c. (2) During the evening after the feast, one of the officers told the assembled persons of an episode which had occurred at a Cafe Luna and as subject was the foremost person of this episode, he was asked to relate it to the assembled persons. It seems, that one day PORMANIS and several officers entered the Cafe Luna and upon entering were told by a civilian who showed them a candidate card of the Communist Party that they would have to leave. Thereupon PORMANIS pulled out his membership card and in turn ordered this civilian to leave. During this recital, Subject made all the necessary gestures and at the end, pulled out his membership card and displayed it to the assembled crowd.

(3) Later that evening, when everyone was slightly intoxicated, these officers started to sing several patriotic Latvian songs, at which time subject became very agitated and had to be soothed by the person who had invited him, one Lt. KEVALDS. Subject was begged not to report this incident to the local authorities, but this group of officers always became smaller as more and more of them were arrested by the Russian forces. My son Martin was the first to be arrested and by June only one or two of the original group were still free.

(4) Shortly after the occupation by the Germans, my daughter-in-law told me, that she had seen subject with a swastika armband in front of the former headquarters of the Communist Party on the day after the occupation. There he acted in the capacity of a guard.

(5) A short while later the Latvian Secret Police arrested PORMANIS. I was questioned about subject by the Latvian police and was told by the policeman doing the interrogation that subject had to be released because of pressure by several high German officials.

(6) From Miss Ausma GRIGANS, who was formerly a good friend of my daughter-in-law and who lived with us, I learned that subject was in ESSLINGEN. GRIGANS told me that she had attended a party at the home of a friend, where she was introduced to subject. During the evening many Russian songs were sung and PORMANIS made fun of the DP's and in a joking manner showed a certificate stating that he was a prosecuted person. Subject further talked of huge amounts of goods and money.

c. The only witnesses KULIS could name to this entire story are:

- (1) KULIS, Viktorija, ESTRAINED by MUNICH, Baltic DP camp
- (2) GRIGANS, Ausma, 59 Bay Ridge Parkway, c/o Mr. T. GRANT, Brooklyn 9, New York

(KOTC, PORJANIS, Vitolds, cont'd)

7 June 1947

d. Subject's cording record revealed the following:

(1) PORJANIS, Vitolds, born 4 February 1919 at RIBNIK, Russia, arrived in Germany during August 1942. He worked as a forced laborer for the German railroad. Was living in the American Zone since 1945 at ESSLINGEN, Martinstrasse 24. Profession: Newspaper reporter. He speaks Russian, German, English and Latvian. Subject left for the States on 11 Dec 1946. Address in the States: 19449 Faust Road, DETROIT, Michigan c/o August K. Jacobson.

(2) Subject's father was a member of parliament in Latvia and the social democratic party.

3. Agent's Comments and Recommendations:

It is recommended that the content of this report be forwarded to the FBI, DETROIT, Michigan, that a copy of this report be forwarded to CIC Region IV for questioning of KULIS, Viktorija (Paragraph c (1), this report) and that the necessary steps be initiated to have GIGANS, Ausma (Paragraph c (2), this report) interviewed on subject matter.

Evaluation of KULIS's statement: F-6

curt of file
KURT D. ELLE
Special Agent CIC

Evaluation concurred with:

APPROVED:

W. A. Deering
WILLIAM A. DEERING
Special Agent CIC
Commanding

Tel. Stuttgart 93405

HEADQUARTERS
SUB REGION MURITZBERG
COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS REGION I
EUROPEAN COMMAND

EX-E.GAB.e1

APO 154, US Army
4 December 1947

File I-914

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

SUBJECT: PORLANS, Alfreds

RE: Subversion

a. Subject is alleged to have been a member of the Communist party in Latvia and has allegedly carried a Communist party membership card. Among the persons claiming to have seen this card is a Frau KUPLIS, Frau, Latvian DP camp STIEFELAYER, ESSLINGEN (L49/SII).

b. Subject allegedly received his affidavit for support (paper needed for migration to the US) through intercession and aid of the Socialist Party of America. He emigrated subsequently and is presently allegedly staying in BOSTON.

c. Subject is alleged to have correspondence with individuals in the Latvian DP camp who are in connection with the Soviet repatriation officer, Major LIEBERT, in STUTTGART.

3. Agent's Comments and Recommendations.

a. Information above is forwarded since it is held possible that Subject has neglected to mention his former membership in the Communist Party in his application for a US visa and may still be active in this direction.

b. Recommend this report be forwarded to the FBI and to the US Consulate, STUTTGART, for their information.

c. Evaluation of this report is C-6.

The undersigned concurs
in the above evaluation

GARRY A. BARRICK
Special Agent CIC

Approved:

Special Agent CIC, CMC Officer

Stuttgart 93001/402

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AGENT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT	2. DATE SUBMITTED
PORIŅIS, Vitolds	17 July 1950
	3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.
	1-911

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

1. REASON FOR INVESTIGATION:

- a. Reference is made to Agent Reports, Headquarters 66th CIC Detachment, Region I, dated 24 February 1947, 7 July 1947, and 4 December 1947, Subject and file as above.
- b. Reference is further made to Agent Report, Headquarters 66th CIC Detachment, Region I, Subject: Molita PORENIS, dated 17 August 1949, file I-3314.
- c. Subject is suspected of being a member of the Communist Party and falsifying his emigration papers by withholding information that he was a member of the Communist Party in Latvia.

2. SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION:

Subject, a Latvian, was alleged to be a member of the Communist Party in Latvia and to have also written editorials and columns for the Latvian Communist newspaper, "Cīta". Subject was expelled from the Latvian Student Fraternity "Lettonia" for having written articles glorifying the communistic government and at the same time abusing the former free Latvian government and its supporters. Subject, during 1940 and 1941, the time of the Russian occupation of Latvia, was a member of the Editorial Board of the communist newspaper "Cīta". Subject is alleged to have displayed his Communist Party membership card during a visit to a cafe in Riga, Latvia, in February 1941, and also again in the presence of other people during a wedding party. Subject's father, Martins PORENIS, sent both his children, Helita and Vitolds, to left-wing Socialist schools in Latvia. Martins PORENIS was a member of the Communist Party in Latvia prior to 1930 and is presently a Communist Party member in Riga, Latvia. Martins PORENIS is also a member of the Communist Party Executive Committee in Riga, a position which Subject later attained. Subject is alleged to have frequently visited the Russian Repatriation Officer in STUTTGART (149/SC2) and is believed to have been an informant for him. After the entrance of the Germans into Latvia in 1941, Subject was seen wearing a swastika armband and patrolling in front of the former Cheka Building in Riga, Latvia.

3. PRESENT INVESTIGATION:

Background data: Information has been forwarded in previous reports.

4. On 22 June 1950, Pastor Artur PIESALGS, 12 Heckendorfstr, TÜBINGEN (110/139), was interviewed and stated that Subject was a member of his student fraternity but that he had not heard of Subject being expelled from this organization. PIESALGS stated, however, that it is entirely possible that this action was

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT	6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT
WALTER M. McGINNIS, Special Agent, CIC 66th CIC Det., Region I	<i>Walter M. McGinnis</i>

WD 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1949 1257-3

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At, I-914, Ref I, 66th CIC Det, 17 July 50, subj: POCALIS, Vitolds

taken after he (PIEALGS) had left the fraternity. PIEALGS did not know Subject well even at that time, and has not had any contact with him since 1940 or 1941. Subject was suspected of being a communist in Latvia during the time of the Russian occupation. PIEALGS stated that although he did not know Subject intimately, Subject's reputation in the city of RIGA was very bad, with people suspecting him of being engaged in all types of activities. PIEALGS cannot supply any pertinent information pertaining to Subject since he has not had any contact with him since 1940 or 1941 and doubts if he would know Subject now. PIEALGS suggested contacting Andris HERZINS, ESSLINEN (149/S12), who was a former fraternity member of Subject, Pastor Richards ZARTIS, 564 2nd St., BROOKLYN, 15, N.Y., Professor Iku LEJNIS, a professor for a military college in WASHINGTON D.C., and a Pastor Iku VILLE, female, also residing in NEW YORK CITY. PIEALGS believes that these people could verify rumors that he has heard that Subject was active in communist activities while a resident of the ESSLINEN DP Camp. (F-6)

5. UNDEVELOPED LEADS AND FUTURE ACTION:

It is suggested that the above listed persons be interviewed to determine the extent of their knowledge concerning Subject's past activities.

6. AGENT'S NOTES:

- a. Background Information: Subject was suspected by the inhabitants of the ESSLINEN DP Camp as being a communist. Subject had no close friends in this camp, and the people who knew him best have all emigrated to other countries. Questions asked in the camp concerning Subject have brought forth only negative replies.
- b. Comments and Opinions: None
- c. Recommendations: None

APPROVED:

Edward R. WEISER
Special Agent, CIO
Chair, CE Team

29/9

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